

Out-of-scope (licensed) services Networking meeting

Communique 2 – March 2022

Attendees:

Chair	Liz McNally, Operations Manager Compliance
Guest	Kellie Watson - EYSAC Workforce Project Manager
Guest	Annette Barwick- Lady Gowrie Tasmania - General Manager Business Development & Research
Tracey Roberts	Wombats Child Care Centre and ECU Stakeholder Reference Group member out-of-scope (licensed) services
Renee Holubnystchj	Wanslea In Home Care Service - Tasmania
Michelle Mallett and Casey Reid-Staniek	Tasmanian Aboriginal Child Care Association (TACCA)
Lisa Coulson	Aboriginal Children's Centre
Kathy Cripps, Courtney Hobbs, Kristy Wallis	Lady Gowrie Frederick Street Child Centre
Marie Wilson	Pilgrim Uniting Early Learning
Tanya Greenwood	Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House Play Centre
Leonie McNair and Harriet Thyne	The Launceston Preparatory School Early Learning Centre
Department of Education (DoE)	Vanessa Morris, A/ Policy & Engagement Manager
	Bryan Cheong, Policy & Communication Officer
	Petra Ambrosiussen, Authorised Officer
	Hannah Steele, Authorised Officer
	Jane Jepson, Authorised Officer (Licensing Officer)

Apologies

Vidhya Chelliah	Manager, Education and Care
Louise Adams and Di Aurik	Legana Play Centre
Rachael Dobson	YMCA Launceston Pre-Kinder Play Centre
Mariah Terry	Fingal Valley Neighbourhood House Play Centre
Jenea Airey	Beehive Play Centre
Jodi Geard and Mel Knucky	West Moonah Community Preschool
Samantha Sutcliffe and Justin Abrahams	Bridgewater Police and Community Youth Club Outside School Hours Care (BPCYC)
Janine Heath	Pilgrim Uniting Early Learning
Sandra Murphy	Wanslea In Home Care Service - Tasmania
Joanne Nash	Possums Play Centre
Annette Fuhr-Evitt	Tarremah Steiner School Early Childhood Centre
Jacqueline King and Priscila Pacey-Mayne	Grasshoppers Play Centre
Jennifer Heawood	Brighton Play Centre
Peta Griffiths	Riana Early Learning Centre
David Morse and Lucy Brown	Kingston Child Care Centre
Natalia Clarke	Devonport Play Centre
Kate Lee	Midlands Rural and Remote Child Care Services - AVOCA and CRESSY

The ECU and representatives from out-of-scope (licensed) services connected (online) via Microsoft Teams meeting on the 25 March 2022. The information below reflects the discussion and outcomes from the meeting:

1 ECU Update

Liz McNally is the new Operational Manager for the ECU Compliance Team. Vivienne Mitchell recently retired.

Estelle Clerk, the Policy and Engagement Manager has commenced a period of extended leave. Vanessa Morris is backfilling this position until 2023.

Bryan Cheong has been recruited as the Policy and Communications Officer.

2 Workforce challenges and student placements in out-of-scope services

Presentation by Early Years and School Aged Care (EYSAC) Workforce Project Manager, Kellie Watson, and Lady Gowrie Tasmania - General Manager Business Development & Research, Annette Barwick, on the EYSAC project.

- Following the October 2021 meeting where challenges with obtaining student placements was raised by attendees, the ECU invited the EYSAC Workforce Project Manager to provide an overview on the work undertaken in the project to date.
- It was noted that students' placements at licensed services are possible. The age group of children offered at the service will determine the suitability of the placement options.
- ECU in consultation with licensed services will create an Information Sheet relating to student placements in licensed services, that can be available to support conversations with Registered Training Organisations (RTO) regarding potential student placements.
- EYSAC Resources: <https://eysac.com.au/resources/>

3 COVID-19 information

The [ECU website](#) provides up to date information relating to:

- COVID-19 FAQs for the following.
 - [Service Providers](#)
 - [For Parents](#)
- [Information for living with and managing COVID-19 in ECEC settings](#), includes letter templates.
- WorkSafe Tasmania provides information regarding [COVID Safety Plans](#)
- Information relating to [registration for temporary exemption from quarantine – early childhood education and care](#).
- For any further questions or information please contact Jane Jepson.

4. Resources

Suggestions were sought for any resources the ECU could develop to support services.

Meeting attendees discussed the challenges of the ECEC mask mandate and how it may inhibit the ability to effectively communicate with children. It was noted that visual supports provide a means of supporting both

receptive and expressive communication for all children; in particular, children who have difficulty processing verbal information or using verbal language to communicate.

For further information on visual supports, or how they could be used in your service please contact:

Roxanne Ellis
Lady Gowrie Inclusion Agency
Phone: 03 6230 6845
Email: roxanne.ellis@gowrie-tas.com.au

Information Sheet on Visual Supports website:
<https://gowrie-tas.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/Gowrie-Tasmania-Inclusion-Agency-Tasmania-Visual-Support.pdf>

If any additional resource needs are identified or if you have particular resources that support your service that you would be willing to share, please contact Jane Jepson to discuss.

Jane Jepson
Phone: 03 6165 5676
Email: jane.jepson@education.tas.gov.au

5. Next Meeting

The next licensed meeting is proposed to be held in Campbell Town in October 2022, date to be confirmed.

Vidhya Chelliah
Manager, Education and Care Unit
Strategy and Performance
Department of Education